

prices and transportation costs for all products, and home heating is up 54 percent.

With inflation at a 40-year high after the most expensive Thanksgiving, now we face the most expensive Hanukkah and Christmas.

The Democrat elite think they are smarter than everyone and think Democrat voters and Democrat media are ignorant to believe that this \$4.5 trillion costs zero dollars.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, who successfully protected America for 20 years, as the global war on terrorism continues moving from the Afghanistan safe haven to America.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to welcome Hunter Taylor Wilson, Jr., born today at 2 a.m., son of Dr. Julianne Jett Wilson and my No. 4 son, Hunter Taylor Wilson, Sr., of West Columbia, South Carolina.

#### REMEMBERING SENATOR ROBERT J. DOLE

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to recognize a great American, a man whose accomplishments during the 20th and 21st centuries are legend already.

Senator Robert Dole was a war hero who fought against Nazi forces in the horrific battles on the Italian front and was gravely wounded. Following the 20th century's Allied victory against tyranny, he went on to serve as one of America's finest statesmen. He was strong, faithful, honest, and indefatigable.

My friendship with Senator Dole was forged during the 17-year quest to secure a fitting World War II memorial here in our Nation's Capitol that honors the 16 million Americans who put it all on the line when the world needed them most.

Our Nation needs leaders like Bob Dole today. He understood that extreme partisanship could not bring about the common good. Instead, we must work together to deliver the promises of the American Dream.

He left us with this wise advice: "America needs unity to rediscover its greatness."

Godspeed, Senator Dole. You will be greatly missed and remembered always.

#### MARY ANN CHAVEY'S RETIREMENT FROM PENN STATE UNIVERSITY

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to ad-

dress the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate and recognize Mary Ann Chavey for her retirement from Penn State University, my alma mater.

Mary Ann was hired by Penn State in April 1976 and has served the university with distinction for 45 years. She joined the Office of Government and Community Relations, OGCR, in 1996 and has served as executive assistant through two vice president transitions.

Penn State OGCR is the office elected officials contact to interact with the university's world-class scientific researchers and talented students as well as its senior leaders. Mary Ann always handled her duties with grace and professionalism. Her institutional memory and understanding of the university have been critical to serving Penn State's external stakeholders at the Federal, State, local, and Tribal governmental levels.

Mary Ann has been the glue that held OGCR together over the years. She has been a model and mentor to numerous staff and student interns. Her knowledge and expertise helped strengthen the OGCR team to advance the mission, vision, and goals of Penn State University.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking Mary Ann Chavey for her extraordinary service to Penn State University and a congratulations on her retirement.

#### UPHOLDING THE LAWS OF THE LAND

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, in this holiday season, a time of joy, there are still families who are mourning the tragedy of loss of their beautiful, precious students in Oakland County, Michigan. What a suffering time.

In this place where our voices speak volumes, two Members decided to show their holiday spirit by exhibiting their families with any manner of weapons, AK-47s and otherwise, automatic weapons.

How they thought that this was the volume that should be heard from this place, I do not know. But I really condemn this kind of attitude and this kind of volume that generates into violence.

We have a responsibility as we take an oath in this place to not only uphold the laws of the land but to be role models for the American people. Guns

in the holiday season in the midst of precious souls who died—enough is enough.

Pass real gun safety laws and pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Act. Elections count. Enough is enough. Let us act like those who have taken an oath to serve this Nation.

□ 2200

#### SYNTHETIC OPIOID OVERDOSE DEATHS CONTINUE TO SKYROCKET

(Mr. BILIRAKIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today saddened as deaths involving synthetic opioids continue to skyrocket.

In my district, in Pasco County, Florida, 193 people have died from fentanyl overdose since January. I have also received hundreds of heartbreaking stories from constituents whose families have been devastated by addiction.

One constituent, MaryAnne said: "I lost my son in June of 2021 to a fentanyl overdose. The system failed me in every single way. With open borders, enough fentanyl came pouring into our country's southern border to kill 70 percent of our population. Sadly, my son is one of those statistics." Parents like MaryAnne are the faces of the fentanyl crisis.

Mr. Speaker, the tragedies these families have experienced are the reason why we must fight back. We must secure our borders, Mr. Speaker. We must place fentanyl-related substances into schedule I, and we must hold China accountable.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of illness.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(b) of House Resolution 188, the House stands adjourned until noon tomorrow.

Thereupon (at 10 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, December 9, 2021, at noon.

#### EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the fourth quarter of 2021, pursuant to Public Law 95-384, are as follows: